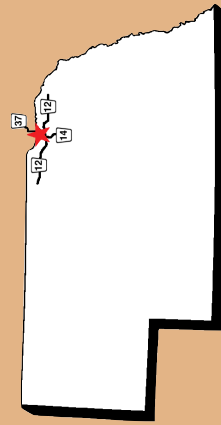
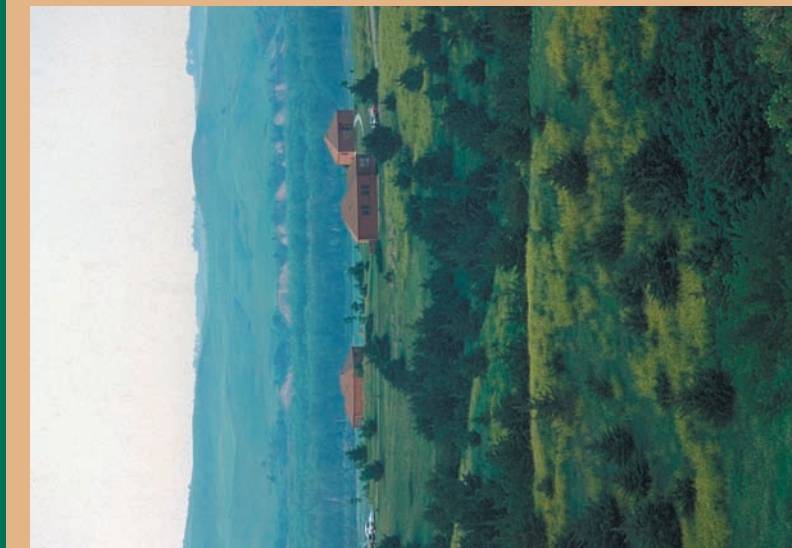




Niobrara STATE PARK

NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION



NIOBRARA STATE PARK Niobrara, NE

Under federal and/or state law, discrimination is prohibited on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, marital status, national origin, disability or political affiliation. If you think you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility or want more information, contact the Affirmative Action Officer, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-0641; the Equal Opportunity Commission, Lincoln, NE, 402-471-2024; TTY / TDD 402-471-4693. USFWS, Division of Bird Habitat and Conservation, Civil Rights Coordinator, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, MBSP 4020, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

NIOBRARA STATE PARK

Situated at the confluence of the Niobrara and Missouri rivers on Nebraska's northeastern border, Niobrara State Park encompasses a wide range of outdoor experiences. Cabins, tent and RV camping, picnicking, swimming, boat ramps, horseback trail rides, raft rides, hiking, fishing, history and communing with nature all await at this exceptional 1,260-acre park.

Cabins are open year-round while activities operate from Memorial weekend through Labor Day, with the exception of the swimming pool, which opens mid-June. Park grounds are open year-round for picnicking, hiking, sightseeing and primitive camping.

Visitors are urged to practice safety at all times. Parts of the park are situated on high bluffs that can be hazardous for the unwary and the careless.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Niobrara's 19 modern housekeeping cabins sit high above the Missouri, offering a commanding view of the breathtaking expanse of bluffs, cliffs and river. There are 12 two-

bedroom units that sleep 6 (1 double and 2 sets of bunk beds); 3 three-bedrooms that sleep 10 (1 double and 4 sets of bunk beds); and 4 three-bedrooms units that sleep 8 (2 queens and 2 sets of bunk beds). They have air conditioning and heat. Bedding, towels, cooking utensils and tableware are provided. Cabins have kitchenettes complete with a small stove and refrigerator, a screened back porch, and a patio with picnic table and grill.

A group day use lodge is available for conferences, retreats, family reunions and other similar events. Situated on a ridge overlooking the Missouri River, it offers a spectacular view of the vicinity. The lodge has a well-equipped kitchen and restrooms, and accommodates up to 110 people.

Cabin reservations are accepted for two or more nights up to a year in advance of arrival date, and can be made online, by phone or in person during regular park office hours. During the peak season a two-night minimum stay is required; unless it is a one-night stay positioned between two prior reservations or a walk-in registration for that day's business.



Half of the modern campsites at Niobrara State Park can be reserved prior to arrival; the remainder are available on a first come, first served basis. Reservations may be made up to a year in advance of arrival date, and can be made online, by phone or in person.

CAMPING & PICNICKING

The modern RV campground has 76 pads with 30/50 amp electrical hookups. Other facilities include modern restrooms, drinking water, showers, dump station, picnic tables and grills. There is excellent catfishing in the Mormon Canal in May and June. Playground equipment for the youngsters is also available in the campground.

The tent camping area extends along three miles of extremely hilly, winding, one-way road. Grills and ground-level fire rings are provided for tenters. Many sites are situated on elevated hills overlooking the Niobrara River. Cedar trees abound in the tent camping area, interspersed with groups of elm, hackberry and ash. Backpackers will also find Adirondack shelters here.

For horse lovers, Niobrara has a special camping area for those who want to bring mounts to the park.

Grills and picnic sites are located at various points along the one-way loop. One picnic shelter, situated on one of the highest points in the park, gives a spectacular view of the surrounding countryside.



Niobrara State Park enjoys commanding view of scenic Missouri River, and the J. Alan Cramer historical interpretive kiosk offers special perspective of the river, the park and its history (cover). The swimming pool is the place to be on a warm summer day (bottom left). Modern campgrounds nestle where Indians tipis may once have stood (top left). Park and cabins provide panoramic view (above). Fishing on the Missouri River is just one of many fun-time activities (left).

RECREATION & WILDLIFE

A large population of white-tailed deer call the park home, and wild turkeys roam freely through the cabin and tent camping areas. Beaver, muskrat and mink prowl the riverbanks, and the varied bird life ranges from the majestic bald eagle to the tiny chickadee. The song of the whippoorwill blends with the call of the coyote in a nighttime serenade.

For the wildlife enthusiast, Niobrara offers ample photo opportunities and the chance to observe the many species native to the area.

Nature's bounty is readily visible during a drive along the park's seven miles of roads or a stroll along the 14-plus miles of hiking trails. A 2.1-mile hike-bike trail traverses the entire northern boundary of the park and offers some unique views of the timbered river bluffs and wetland areas. The eight-foot-wide trail is wheelchair accessible and features a fishing bridge across the Niobrara River. In winter, the trail is open to cross-country skiers and snowmobiles.

Niobrara State Park offers twice-daily raft tours of the Missouri; fishing in nearby rivers; hiking along 14 miles of trails; bird watching and other nature study; or just a chance to loll in the shade away from the hectic pace of day-to-day living. Pool hours are 1-6 p.m. daily. A lifeguard is always on duty.

The park maintains three boat access areas to the Missouri River — the Verdel site, 8 miles upstream (toilets available); Ferry Landing, 4 miles downstream across from the village of Running Water, S.D., and the old Niobrara townsite (high-water use only).

The Cramer Interpretive Center offers not only an exceptional view of the park, but it also highlights people and places that played key roles in the history of the area, including the story of the Ponca Indians.

Adjacent to the park is the 4,500-acre Bazile Creek Wildlife Management Area, which affords ample opportunity for wildlife viewing, fishing, boating and hunting in season.

Visitors may want to visit the site where the large fossilized skull, jaw and paddle of a mosasaurus, a sea-going lizard at least 30 feet long, had lain for 70 million years. Other areas of interest are the Ponca Cemetery, Mormon Monument and the Ponca Agency, as well as other local historical attractions. Ask for directions at the Park Office.

Private firms offer guided fishing outings on the unchanneled portion of the Missouri. The city of Niobrara offers a modern, 9-hole grass-greens golf course.

RESERVATIONS

To make reservations online, go to www.outdoornebraska.org. Phone reservations can be made through the Nebraska State Park call center at (402) 471-1414. The center is open from 9 am to 6 pm Central time, reduced weekend hours may occur.

GENERAL INFORMATION

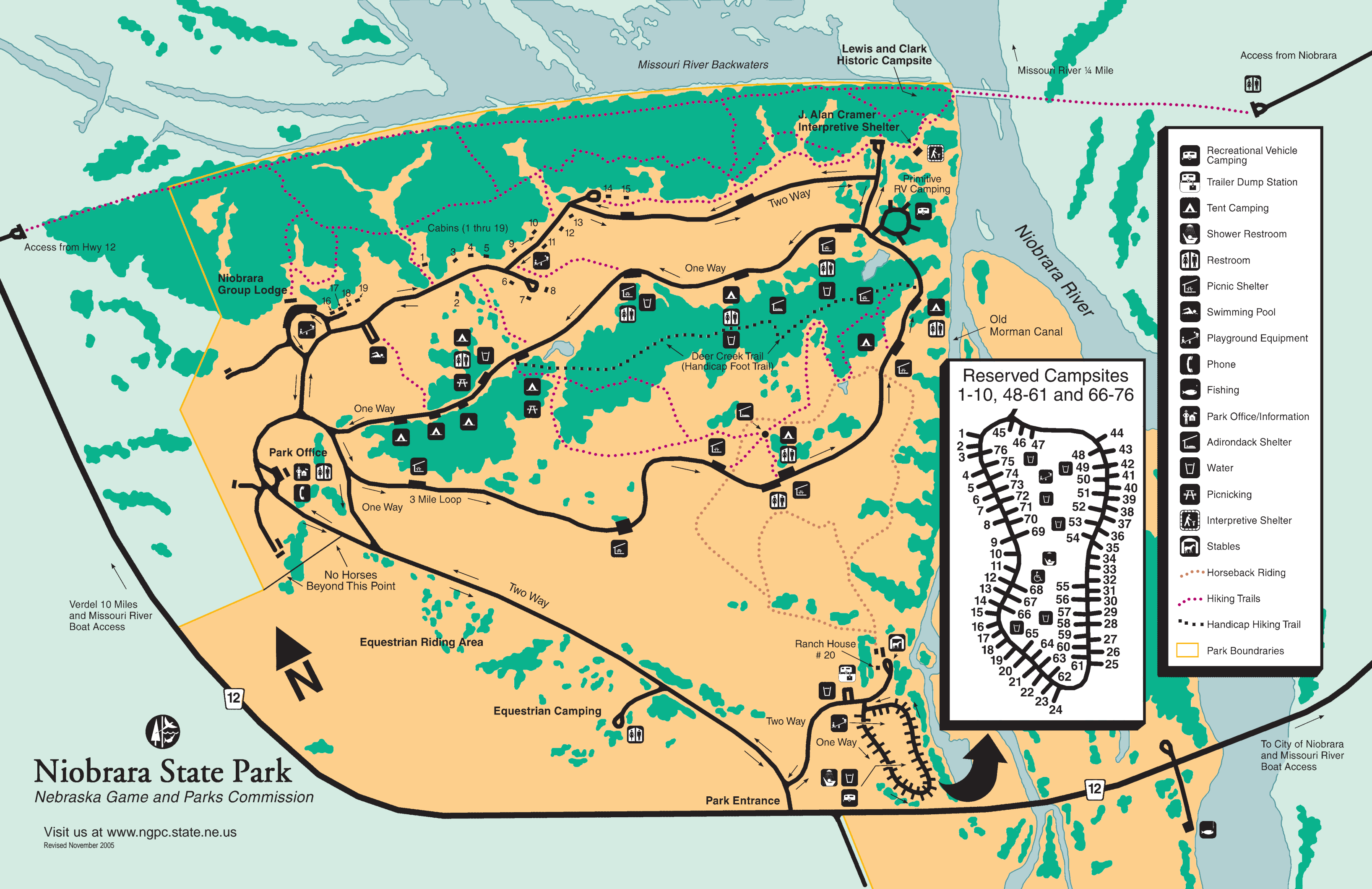
A current Nebraska park entry permit is required for all vehicles entering the park. Permits are available at the office, as are hunting and fishing permits, which can also be obtained online.

For more information on Niobrara or other Nebraska state park areas, visit the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's web site at www.outdoornebraska.org. You can buy a park entry, fishing or hunting permit online as well. For other park information, call 1-800-826-PARK (7275) and leave your name, complete address, and your request.

NIOBRARA STATE PARK

89261 522nd Avenue
Niobrara, NE 68760
Phone: 402-857-3373
email : niobrara@ngpc.ne.gov





Access from Hwy 12

Missouri River Backwaters

Lewis and Clark
Historic Campsite

Missouri River ¼ Mile

Access from Niobrara

Niobrara
Group Lodge

Cabins (1 thru 19)

J. Alan Cramer
Interpretive Shelter

Primitive
RV Camping

Niobrara River

Old Mormon Canal

Deer Creek Trail
(Handicap Foot Trail)

Park Office

3 Mile Loop

No Horses
Beyond This Point

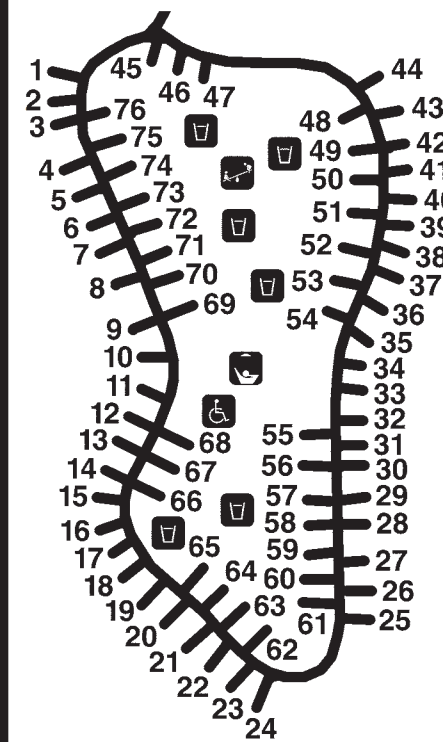
Equestrian Riding Area

Equestrian Camping

Ranch House
20

Park Entrance

Reserved Campsites
1-10, 48-61 and 66-76



- Recreational Vehicle Camping
- Trailer Dump Station
- Tent Camping
- Shower Restroom
- Restroom
- Picnic Shelter
- Swimming Pool
- Playground Equipment
- Phone
- Fishing
- Park Office/Information
- Adirondack Shelter
- Water
- Picnicking
- Interpretive Shelter
- Stables
- Horseback Riding
- Hiking Trails
- Handicap Hiking Trail
- Park Boundaries

To City of Niobrara
and Missouri River
Boat Access

Niobrara State Park
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Visit us at www.ngpc.state.ne.us
Revised November 2005